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CONFERENCE ON ALLOCATION OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS -- Peiping, Kung-jen Jih-pao,
 25 Mar 54

The Ministry of Labor of the Central People's Government held a conference 5-17 March 1954 to discuss the purpose and scope of the nationwide activities in allocating construction workers. Delegates from Mukden, Tientsin, Harbin, Shantung, Sungkiang, Liaosi, and from other cities and provinces presented their own experiences for discussion and studied "Temporary Methods for Allocation of Construction Workers," "On Methods for Drawing up Construction Worker's Contract," and "On Methods of Drawing Up Contracts for The Lending of Workers." They also discussed many problems, including civil engineering, installation of equipment, and workers' wages.

The conference emphasized that the purpose of allocating labor is to serve the needs and assure successful completion of basic construction. Improvement in the organization of the labor force in construction enterprises will reduce idle and wasted time, save national capital, and train a technical labor force.

On the basis of present requirements, construction workers' allocation agencies must draw up plans and methods to supply the needs of the workers in political, technical, and physical aspects; to establish and strengthen the labor allocation system within individual construction units, and to develop uniformity in wage standards and technical skill standards. The conference recognized that the key to accomplishing these objectives lies in the mutual leadership of party committees and construction sections supported by the trade unions. In conclusion, the delegates felt that the exchange of experiences and the views discussed at the conference would clarify the situation and would expand and improve the work of the allocation of construction workers.

During 1953, construction workers' allocation agencies were established and strengthened in 93 cities and advances were made in labor employment. In 1953, they supplied to a large extent the labor force required by basic construction. Of more than 450,000 placements made (one placement equals one man placed in one job) in the Northeast, over 61 percent were in basic construction units. More than 126,000 placements totaling more than 5,370,000 workdays were made by the Tientsin Labor Bureau. In Shantung the Labor Bureau not only supplied the labor force for construction for the whole province, but also supplied more than 1,300 workers to areas in the Northeast and in East China. Moreover, allocation agencies organized and promoted training for temporary construction workers.

During the first half of 1953, many workers were idle because some construction units, beginning work late, planned for and contracted too many workers. During August and September there was a shortage of technical personnel because most of the construction companies started work at the same time. In the Northeast, in Peiping, and in other areas the problem of idle workers was partially solved by having a pool of construction workers. This labor pool resulted in a saving of 1.15 million workdays and 27.6 billion yuan in wages. In many cities the labor sections concentrated on reducing the shortage of technical labor as well as maintaining a constant supply of workers.

At one project of the Mukden Construction and Engineering Company of the First Ministry of Machine Industry, there were 306 plasterers, and because the work in October was urgent, they asked for 94 more workers. An inspection of this project by the Mukden Labor Bureau revealed that inefficient work methods was the reason why they needed more plasterers. Subsequently, the bureau sent experts to the site to help the company solve this difficulty. Instead of

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assigning more plasterers to this project, they transferred 9 from this site to another area. Although there was a reduction in the number of plasterers, the project was able to exceed its production quota by 30 percent through more efficient techniques.

In the spring of 1953, companies who feared they would not have enough workers to complete their jobs went directly to the rural areas and recruited labor. This resulted in much confusion. At present, the peasants who recklessly migrated into the cities are returning home under the direction of the party committees. Since recruitment of labor by private concerns has been greatly reduced, reckless migration of workers into the cities can also be avoided.

CHINESE RR VOLUNTEERS IN KOREA RETURN -- Peiping, Kung-jen Jih-pao, 16 Mar 54

More than 800 employees of the Tsinan Railway Control Bureau returned to Tsinan on 9 March 1954 after serving over 3 years in Korea as volunteers in the Resist America, Aid Korea Movement. More than 2,000 people from provincial and city delegations welcomed them at the station. Of this group of volunteers from the Tsinan Railway Control Bureau, 198 had been decorated by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for heroism and meritorious service during the war. After the war they helped the Korean people rebuild railway bridges and culverts.

NEW HOUSING FOR WORKERS -- Shanghai, Chieh-fang Jih-pao, 6 Dec 53

Construction of a new workers' dormitory of 564 units by the Third Engineering Bureau of the East China First Construction and Engineering Company for the Shanghai Post and Telecommunications workers was completed 46 days ahead of schedule.

A Red Flag Contest was held on the project to stir up the workers and as a result 78.2 percent of all the work units won the award. During the contest, painting units raised their daily work from 15 square meters to 40 square meters. Masons were sent to observe modern bricklaying methods at T'ung Ching University. A Chinese and a Soviet expert demonstrated new techniques at the project. As a result, within 20 days, masons laid 180,000 more bricks than had been scheduled. Each man of one masonry unit laid an average of 3,000 or more bricks during an 8-hour day. Using a longer, more modern plane enabled carpenters to plane up to 40 square meters of flooring instead of the originally scheduled 20 square meters.

SAFETY AND PRODUCTION IN COAL MINES -- Peiping, Kung-jen Jih-pao, 21 Mar 54

During January and February, all mines under the Central-South China Coal Mine Control Bureau exceeded national production plans. During this period there were no deaths from accidents in these mines, and in February there were no serious injuries or major accidents.

Statistics as of mid February show a reduction of 29.4 percent in one type of accident over the January figure. Minor injuries were reduced 42.2 percent. Among the mines, the local state-operated Hsiang-chiang Coal Mine in Hunan had no minor injuries from accidents for 50 consecutive days; the Li-feng Mine, under the Coking Coal Bureau, had no minor injuries from accidents over a period of 20 days. Major accidents from cave-ins in mines of the Coking Coal Bureau were reduced last year from 23.8 percent of total accidents to 5.6 percent; 97 percent of the mine posts now meet specifications.

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Pit No 7, Kao-te Mine of the Fou-hsin Mine Bureau, reports no deaths from accidents for the past 2 years. A safety drive has been in effect since January 1952; over the same period production plans have been completed and exceeded. Pit No 7 is on a slanted plane, and the coal layers are meager and faulted. The slanted angle was the cause of many accidents. The pit, nevertheless, carried on successful safety education programs. A staff of more than 80 safety assistance and guidance workers were stationed at every work area and division.

MONGOLIAN AND SUIYUAN TRADE UNION COUNCILS MERGE -- Peiping, Kung-jen Jih-pao, 20 Mar 54

The Preparatory Committee of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Trade Union Council and the Suiyuan Provincial Trade Union Council were consolidated on 6 March 1954 at Kuei-sui in a joint meeting of the regular committees in accordance with the decisions of the third session of the Suiyuan People's Congress. All levels of trade-union organizations originally under the Suiyuan Trade Union Council are now attached to the Preparatory Committee of the Inner Mongolia Autonomous Region Trade Union Council.

SOVIET RED CROSS HOSPITAL DEDICATED IN PEIPING -- Peiping, Kung-jen Jih-pao, 17 Feb 54

The grand opening of the newly constructed permanent Soviet Red Cross Hospital in Peiping was held on 16 February. This new structure is ten times larger than the temporary building occupied by the hospital and covers an area of 33,000 square meters. The Soviet Union not only sent 60 specialists to work in the hospital but also furnished most of the equipment and medical supplies.

SOVIET TEXTBOOKS TRANSLATED -- Peiping, Kuang-ming Jih-pao, 9 Dec 53

The Ministry of Higher Education by November was publishing 380 translations of Soviet textbooks covering 262 subjects.

SPARE-TIME UNIVERSITY ORGANIZED IN NORTHEAST -- Peiping, Kuang-ming Jih-pao, 13 Dec 53

A spare-time university for industrial cadres in the Northeast has been organized in Mukden through the efforts of the Northeast Bureau of the CCP, the Northeast Education Department, and the Northeast Engineering College. The spare-time university will be directed by the Northeast Engineering College.

The university, which was established to raise the technical, scientific, and cultural level of production cadres, has enrolled 432 students.

TUNG-PEI ENGINEERING COLLEGE -- Hong Kong, Ta Kung Pao, 3 Oct 53

The Tung-pei Engineering College which trains skilled personnel especially for heavy industry has an enrollment of over 5,300 and a faculty of 518. This year, 1,049 graduates were assigned to industrial and educational units. Last year, one group of graduates was sent to the Anshan Iron and Steel Company.

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From the beginning, the Tung-pei Engineering College has operated under the specialization system. After the reorganization of the colleges in China, the departments were reduced to the following: mining, metallurgy, machinery and electrical machinery, and construction. Applying Soviet experiences in higher industrial schools, and in keeping with the requirements of national economic construction and existing conditions in the school, 13 specialized courses were offered, including mining operations, processing, iron and steel metallurgy, and mining with electrical machinery.

The college organized the study of the Russian language. A majority of the members of the faculty can now read Russian technical books. Over 200 instructors are participating in organizing and centralizing the translation of Soviet textbooks for the Ministry of Higher Education. Of the textbooks now used, 94.5 percent are Russian translations.

After their arrival in 1952, three Soviet specialists assisted the college in tightening the coordination between the college and the plants and mines. They helped the college departments, the plants and mines, and the scientific research agencies to organize joint scientific and technical symposiums for the exchange of scientific theory and knowledge and production experiences. Students from the mining operations course collected data from the plants and mines which assisted them in preparing their graduate theses.

Small scientific research groups from the college have solved such plant and mine problems as raising a certain plant's drilling speed by 20 to 40 percent, and some plants and mines have regularly contributed essential material to the college.

Construction of new buildings has begun in the Feng-ying area of Mukden. The buildings will be located on the south side of the Hun Ho and on the north side of Nan-hu (South Lake).

HUA-CHUNG ENGINEERING COLLEGE -- Hong Kong, Ta Kung Pao, 6 Oct 53

The Central People's Government has appropriated 100 billion yuan and recruited 6,000 workers to construct the Hua-chung Engineering College. The building area of this year's construction program will total 82,000 square meters, and the college grounds will occupy 6,200 mou.

This year the college begins repair and construction of 74 two-story buildings, eight classroom buildings, a large library with several thousand seats, and a large assembly room. Eight large applied laboratories and one large-scale machine shop also will be repaired.

The building area of the largest applied laboratory -- the electrical machine laboratory -- is over 2,600 square meters which includes rooms for courses in electrical engineering theory, measurement of electro-magnetism, electronics, and machines operating on alternating current and direct current. The laboratory will accommodate over 100 students. The machine shop, occupying 5,000 square meters, will be equipped with 150 to 160 lathes.

Until the buildings are completed, the facilities of Wuhan, Ch'ang-sha, Nan-ch'ang, and Kweilin universities will be used.

In keeping with the reorganization of higher education, the college is divided into two sections, machine manufacturing and electrical machine engineering. Also in conformity with the reorganization of higher education, the Central-South Water Conservation College and the Central-South Dynamics College will be established on the grounds of the Hua-chung Engineering College.

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